

**FSS Directive No. 6/2024**

**Minimum language competence and subjects  
taught in English**

(effective from September 1, 2024)

*Pursuant to Section 28(1) of Act No. 111/1998 Coll. on Higher Education and on Amendments and Additions to Other Acts (Act on Higher Education), I issue this Directive:*

**Article 1**

**Subject of regulation**

The subject of the regulation is:

1. a description of the organisation of the minimum language competence courses at the Faculty of Social Studies of Masaryk University (hereinafter referred to as "FSS MU") and the definition of the minimum language competences of students at individual levels and forms of study;
2. description of the conditions for the development of teaching in English at the FSS MU and definition of the obligations of students in Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes in terms of deepening their language competences.

**A) Minimum language competence**

**Article 2**

**Language Centre Faculty of Social Studies Division**

1. The Language Centre Faculty of Social Studies Division (hereinafter referred to as "LC") is responsible for the organization, administration, and supervision of language preparation at FSS.
2. The LC provides language training for all students at the FSS MU. The LC provides professional and academic foreign language teaching in English, German, French, Spanish and Russian.
3. The offer of courses of minimum language competence at the FSS MU is adapted in content to the areas of education provided here. It also reflects the minimum language competence requirements defined in this Directive and is designed to enable them to be met.
4. In organising studies in the area of minimum language competence, the LC is guided by the principles of the Study and Examination Regulations of MU and the internal regulations of the FSS.

**Article 3**

**Level of minimum linguistic competence**

A prerequisite for taking the state final examination is the demonstration of a minimum level of linguistic competence. The exact conditions for its fulfilment are regulated by the LC for each level and form of study. Any additional language requirement in Bachelor's and Master's programmes is set out in the control and registration template of the study plan.

### **3.1. Bachelor's studies conducted in the Czech language**

1. The condition for the admission to the state final examination of students of bachelor's studies conducted in the Czech language is the demonstration of the specified minimum language competence in one of the following languages: English, German, French, Spanish or Russian.
2. For Bachelor's studies, the minimum competence in any of the above-mentioned languages is set at the B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (hereinafter referred to as "CEFR").

### **3.2. Continuing Master's studies in Czech and English**

Students of full-time and combined Master's studies must prove the minimum language competence according to the following rules in order to be eligible for the state final examination:

- a) For full-time Czech-language master's studies, the minimum level of competence is set at the C1 CEFR level in one of the following languages: English, German, French, Spanish or Russian.
- b) For the follow-up Master's degree in the combined form, the minimum level of competence shall be B2 CEFR in English.
- c) For the follow-up Master's degree in English, the minimum level of competence shall be C1 CEFR in English.

## **Article 5**

### **Recognition of the minimum language competence**

On 31 May of each calendar year, the LC publishes the conditions for recognition for each form and level of study in addition to the data referred to in Article 4 of the Study and Examination Regulations of MU:

- a) Certificates of language examinations;
- b) language examinations from the FSS, e.g. previous or concurrent studies;
- c) language examinations from another MU faculty;
- d) language examinations at another higher education institution in the Czech Republic or abroad.

Recognition of examinations and certificates is only through the IS MU. The student submits an application entitled "Minimum Language Competence (Recognition)" and uploads the required documents to the folder. The guarantor will then assess the application and determine the grade.

## **B) Courses taught in English**

### **Article 6**

#### **Obligation on departments to offer regular professional courses in English**

1. Departments are obliged to offer regular professional courses in English, thereby contribute to the development of disciplinary competences in the professional language. This includes, in particular, the offering of courses by foreign lecturers, guest lecturers, etc.
2. Departments in their programmes strive to offer courses at each level of study in such a number and thematic breadth as to satisfy student demand.

## **Article 7**

### **Obligations of students in full-time programmes conducted in the Czech language**

1. Students in the Bachelor's degree programme are obliged to take at least two professional courses in English as part of their single-subject curriculum or major/minor study plan in the study programme in which they are enrolled. In the case of a minor study plan, there is no obligation to take professional courses in English, unless the conditions of the study plan define otherwise in the control and registration template. In the case of interfaculty studies, the guidelines apply only to study plans that the student is studying at FSS MU.
2. Students in the follow-up Master's programme are required to take at least one course in English as part of their single-subject study plan or study plan with a specialisation in the study programme in which they are enrolled.
3. Students select courses to fulfill the obligation in the category of compulsory and compulsory elective courses in the offer of control and registration templates of the given study programme. In the event that students choose an English course outside the list of compulsory and compulsory elective courses of a given curriculum as part of their studies, this course is considered an elective course and is therefore not fulfilling the obligation under Articles 7.1 and 7.2.
4. Recognition of the obligation between different levels of study is not possible.
5. Completion of English courses as part of study abroad mobility offered by the Department may also be a fulfillment of the obligation under Articles 7.1. and 7.2.

## **Article 8**

### **Transitional provisions**

1. Article 3.2 c) of this Directive shall apply exclusively to FSS students studying in Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes starting in the autumn semester of the academic year 2025/2026 and thereafter.
2. Students who are enrolled in study plans for closing out are required to complete one course in English as part of each study plan for closing out.

## **Article 9**

### **Final provisions**

1. I entrust the interpretation of the individual provisions of this Directive and their continuous updating to the Vice-Dean for Studies.
2. This Directive shall enter into force on the date of its publication.
3. This Directive shall take effect on September 1, 2024.
4. This Directive repeals the FSS Directive 3/2019 on English language courses and the FSS Directive 4/2019 Language Preparation at the FSS.

In Brno, June 20, 2024

Stanislav Balík

Dean

Czech version is legally binding.